

And you don't know which 2 (percent) to 5 percent they are, and you don't know where they are.

But if all of a sudden the pipeline that is bringing natural gas to the generating plant that is creating the electricity that's lighting these lights shuts down because an imbedded chip in one of the valves fails, it isn't just a valve in a pipeline that has failed, the whole power grid is now at risk. And if enough of them fail in enough key places, you don't have any power.

Or, if enough of them fail in enough water purification plants, you don't have any water. Or, if enough of them fail in enough medical devices in an ICU in a major hospital, some people will die. I'm beginning to sound a little like Chicken Little, but I want you to know these are very real possibilities. And the only reason I am not Chicken Little yet is that we have 17 months in which to get from here to there.

Now, the number-one problem we face is denial.

People say, "No, it can't possibly happen." If I may take a swipe at the National Press Club—I hope this is permitted—the McLaughlin Group—I was on a program with John McLaughlin. We talked about this. And then he played a few clips of our program to the McLaughlin Group and took a vote. And by three to one, they decided it was not a major problem. (Laughter.)

Awareness: Understanding of how serious the problem is, in fact, our biggest challenge. And that's why the president's statement is so welcome, because we can hold all the hearings we want, I can give all the speeches on the floor of the Senate I want, I've long since learned that if I had a secret document of highest national importance that I wanted to put someplace where no one ever would find it—(laughter)—I would put it in the Congressional RECORD. (Laughter.)

So we can't do this without a much higher level of awareness to get everybody involved and get everybody going. That's why, as I say, the president's speech was so welcome and so well done.

But the other thing that I get after I get the first question of how did we get into this mess and how pervasive it is—and I hope I've helped you understand how pervasive it is—I say again, as I said at the outset, what I have described in the United States applies in spades abroad. The only countries that I think are moving aggressively in this area so far, besides the United States, in no particular order: Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, and Singapore. Now the Netherlands have just appointed a former CEO of Phillips (sp) to head their effort, and I think they will soon join that group. There may be some other countries that belong there. But specifically not in that top tier are Japan, Germany, France, and many of our other allies.

This is a global problem, pervasive in robotics, pervasive in embedded chips, pervasive in connections.

To give you a quick anecdote about that, I was at the Defense Department talking about this to Secretary Cohen and Deputy Secretary Hamre. And I—they said, "Yeah, we're—you know, we're working very hard on this."

And I said, "It'll be real embarrassing if the screen goes blank on the year 2000."

And Secretary Hamre said, "Well, actually, Senator, that's not our biggest problem." He said, "That's kind of good news. If the screen goes blank, we know we've got a problem. Our problem is if the screen stays up and we are receiving data that is wrong and we don't know it, and the whole database then becomes suspect."

So those are the three areas. You've got the software problem that people can quickly understand, you've got the embedded chip

problem that they probably haven't thought about, and then you have the connections problem that can ultimately kill you.

Well, back to the "McLaughlin Group" for just a minute. This is the question I get: Are we going to win or lose? Okay, is it going to be a catastrophe or are we going to get by? Give me an answer so I can cut to a commercial. (Laughter.)

All right. Let me leave you with this analogy. I think the president's statement yesterday was a stirring call to arms. And if I may say so without overdramatizing it, it's a little like announcing that we are at war. Now, this is a different war in that it has a set time period. But if you had asked Franklin Roosevelt on the 8th of December, 1941—Are we going to win or lose?—he would have said, "We're going to win"—just the way Bill Clinton said yesterday, "We're going to win. We're going to solve this problem." But would you in the press corps say, "Oh, good. The president has told us we are going to win, so we can now ignore this story." And yet too many in the press are saying that: "Oh, we've got a three-to-one vote on the 'McLaughlin Group' that says it's not going to be a big deal, so we can ignore this story."

I believe we're going to win; that is I think that civilization as we know it is not going to come to an end. It's a possibility. Possibility, if Y2K were this weekend instead of 76 weekends from now, it would. But we have 76 weeks in which to try to get this under control. But we are, in a sense, at war against this problem. And you would not have said in the Second World War, "Oh, because the president assures us we're going to eventually prevail, we do not need to cover Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Normandy, the Battle of the Bulge, or any of the rest of it."

And so my plea to you here in the Press Club is: Do not ignore this story just because someone is reassuring you that it's going to work out all right. There are all kinds of stories out there that need to be covered and, most importantly, need to be exposed.

This is the ideal story for the Washington press corps. In covering it, you can affect the outcome. Isn't that what you're always trying to do? (Laughter.) Here's an opportunity! (Applause.)

Well, as you know, I've told you I've been immersed in this. It has become my obsession. I said that to the president yesterday as I congratulated him on his speech. And he said, "Good. Somebody has to be obsessed."

But I think I will quit at this point and respond to whatever questions you might have. Thank you very much. (Applause.) ●

CAMPUS CRIME REPORTING

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise to praise my colleagues for making Senator SPECTER's legislation on campus crime reporting a part of the higher education bill. This amendment to the higher education legislation, of which I was a cosponsor, will improve the safety and security of college students and employees across the United States.

Mr. President, when young people go to college they expect to face many challenges—academically, professionally and personally. But neither they nor their parents expect college kids to face high rates of crime, including violent crime. Unfortunately, on too many of our campuses this is exactly what they face. And the situation is made worse by the fact that many colleges and universities fail to accu-

rately and fully report crimes committed on their campuses.

This amendment will close significant loopholes in current law that keep parents and prospective college students from getting the information they need to make a fully informed decision regarding where they should go to college. Thanks to this amendment, the Department of Education will be directed to require colleges to report criminal offenses that occur on sidewalks, streets, and other public lands on or adjacent to the campus, as well as offenses that occur in buildings that are owned by the college but used for commercial purposes, such as student food courts. Colleges that fail to compile accurate crime reports in accordance with these new requirements will suffer civil penalties.

Mr. President, a crime is a crime, whether it occurs in a college classroom, in the campus food court or on the sidewalk. A young man who is mugged, a young woman who is raped, any student who is accosted, beaten or murdered, suffers the same pain and loss regardless of which part of campus it is on which they are victimized.

Through this amendment we can see to it that students and their parents have the fullest possible information available to them regarding the safety of the campuses they are considering. This amendment also will provide colleges and universities with the extra incentive some of them may need to improve the safety and security of their students and employees. In 1994 alone, Mr. President, over 9,500 violent crimes were reported on our college campuses. And that figure does not include crimes colleges have not been required to report. We must do better. College is challenging enough, Mr. President, without adding to its challenges the unknown risk of crime.

Again, I congratulate my colleagues on including this important amendment in the higher education bill and look forward to the swift and efficient implementation of its language. ●

THE BLACK SHIPS FESTIVAL OF RHODE ISLAND

● Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the Japan-America Society of Rhode Island for its efforts in organizing this weekend's 15th annual Black Ships Festival of Rhode Island.

The Black Ships Festival takes its name from the Japanese word Kurofuné (Black Ships) which the residents of Shimoda, Japan used to describe the tar covered American ships which sailed into Shimoda harbor under the command of Rhode Island native Commodore Matthew Perry in 1854. As you know, Commodore Perry and officials in the Edo Period Shogunate negotiated the Treaty of Kanagawa, the first treaty between United States and Japan, which opened Japan to trade with the West and marked the beginning of the relationship between our two great countries.